



# Indiana State Board of Education

Room 225 State House  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2798

## MINUTES

### INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 29, 2011

Department of Education

James Whitcomb Riley Conference Room

151 West Ohio Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

The meeting of the Indiana State Board of Education convened at 9:02 a.m. Board members Dr. Tony Bennett, Sarah O'Brien, Jo Blacketer, Mike Pettibone, Steve Gabet, James D. Edwards, Vicki Snyder, Neil Pickett, David Shane and Daniel Elsener were present.

#### I. **Call to Order**

Dr. Bennett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### II. **Statement of the Chair**

Dr. Bennett talked about accountability determinations, the transparency of utilizing letter grade designations, and the continued use of the metrics designed for the previous categorical labels. He described historical significance of the action the Board would be taking and the hope that it would be the impetus for communities statewide to begin the discussion of very clear expectations for their schools. While two school corporations would be the focus of the Board's action, he also cautioned

that the eleven schools who avoided intervention by making minimum improvement remain a great concern.

### **III. Public Comments**

Public comments were provided by Steven Tripenfeldas, Principal, Munster High School; Dr. Victor Smith; Dr. Eugene White, Superintendent, Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS); and Senator Jean Breaux.

### **IV. Action**

A. Jon Gubera, Chief Accountability Officer, presented a request for approval of the recommended school improvement and performance grade designations for public and nonpublic schools pursuant to I.C. 20-31-8.

Mrs. Blacketor moved for approval. Mr. Pickett seconded the motion. Mr. Shane amended the motion to include direction to the Department that, when the Department releases the letter grade designations, it includes a clear explanation. Mr. Elsener seconded the amended motion. The amended motion passed with nine ayes and one opposed (Mr. Pettibone.)

B. Jim Larson, Director School Turnaround, Dale Chu, Assistant Superintendent and Lee Ann Kwiatkowski, MSD Warren Township, presented background information and a request for approval of the recommended interventions pursuant to I.C. 20-31-9-4 for the following schools:

1. Arlington Community High School.

Recommended intervention: Turnaround School Operator (TSO).

Recommended TSO: EdPower.

Mr. Pickett moved for approval. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Emma Donnan Middle School.

Recommended intervention: TSO.

Recommended TSO: Charter Schools USA.

Mr. Shane moved for approval. Mr. Gabet seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board recessed at 11:28 a.m. and reconvened at 12:08 p.m.

3. Manual High School.

Recommended intervention: TSO.

Recommended TSO: Charter Schools USA.

Mr. Pettibone moved for approval. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. T.C. Howe Community High School.

Recommended intervention: TSO.

Recommended TSO: Charter Schools USA.

Ms. Snyder moved for approval. Mrs. O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Theodore Roosevelt Career and Technical Academy.

Recommended intervention: TSO.

Recommended TSO: Edison Learning.

Mr. Elsener moved for approval. Mr. Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Broad Ripple Magnet High School.

Recommended intervention: Lead Partners.

Recommended Lead Partners: Scholastic Achievement Partners and The New Teacher Project.

Mr. Shane moved for approval of the Lead Partners, subject to such actions as the DOE deems reasonable, to ensure the optimal success of the collaborative spirit thereafter, and a provision in the agreement that gives DOE the ability to continuously monitor and if needed, switch the arrangement, if they decide it is not working. Mr. Pettibone seconded the motion. The motion passed with seven ayes, one abstention (Mr. Elsener), and two opposed (Ms. Snyder and Mrs. Blacketor.)

7. George Washington Community High School.

Recommended intervention: Lead Partners.

Recommended Lead Partners: Wireless Generation and The New Teacher Project.

Mr. Shane moved for approval of the Lead Partners, subject to such actions as the DOE deems reasonable, to ensure the optimal success of the collaborative spirit thereafter, and a provision in the agreement that gives DOE the ability to continuously monitor and if needed, switch the arrangement if they decide it is not working. Mr. Pettibone seconded the motion. The motion passed with nine ayes and one abstention (Mr. Elsener.)

Mrs. Blacketor stated for the record – “their folks do not show double gains over five years like Broad Ripple did, so I support this.”

Information on the TSOs and Lead Partners was provided by:

- Marcus Robinson, CEO and Chancellor of EdPower.
- Richard Page, Vice President of Development of Charter Schools USA.
- Michael Malone, Regional Vice President and Senior Developer for Edison Learning.

- Ian Scott, Site Manager Indianapolis Teaching Fellows The New Teacher Project.
- Leslie Kerner, Vice President of Professional Services for Wireless Generation.
- Jemece Briggs, Account Executive and Jeanette Thomas, Vice President for Scholastic Achievement Partners.

Matt Voors, General Counsel, discussed the Turnaround School Operator and the Lead Partner contract. Mr. Voors said within the next two weeks negotiations will be complete and contracts will then be signed.

Mr. Larson discussed the scope of work for the Turnaround School Operators and the Lead Partners, as well as the community forums for ongoing community outreach.

**V. Board Member Comments**

**VI. Board Operations**

Mr. Pickett spoke to the need for DOE to meet with the schools to make sure all parties have a clear understanding of expectations.

Mr. Pickett moved for adjournment. Mr. Elsener seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

